

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 18, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. (US Pub. 2004/0169810) in view of Choi (US Pat. 6,781,658) and further in view of Castleberry (Re 33,829).

Claim 3 stands allowed.

Claim 21 stands objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 10-17, 19, and 20 stand withdrawn from consideration.

Summary of Amendment

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Claim 23 has been added. No new matter or new issues has been introduced. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the amendment be entered. Claims 1-23 are currently pending, with claims 1-9, 18 and 21-23 under further consideration.

All Claims Comply Under §103

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for allowing claim 3 and indicating that claim 21 would be allowable. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 4-9, 18, 22, and 23 are also allowable for the reasons stated below.

Independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to recite, in part, “the data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line

separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap, wherein the first and second reflective electrodes cover the first and second branch lines, respectively (emphasis added).”

This feature is supported by Figure 11, for example. Hence, no new matter has been added by this amendment.

Independent claims 1 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. (US Pub. 2004/0169810) in view of Choi (US Pat. 6,781,658) and further in view of Castleberry (Re 33,829). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection to the extent applicable to the amended claims. The final Office Action acknowledges that primary reference Fujimori et al. does not teach a “data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line” and introduces Castleberry as teaching this feature.

As discussed in the Request for Reconsideration filed on August 31, 2005, final Office Action never indicates which elements are considered to be the “a first branch line and a second branch line.” Based on the statement that “Castleberry discloses redundancy provided in the data lines (FOA: page 3, top paragraph),” it appears the Office Action is referring to the top layer 32 and bottom layer 32 (Castleberry: Figure 2). As expressed in the Request for Reconsideration, Castleberry’s data line 32 does not have “a first branch line and a second branch lines” as the upper layer 32 and bottom layer 32 are not “separated from each other by a second gap under a first gap” as recited in independent claims 1 and 18 as previously presented. However, in the interest of furthering prosecution, independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to recite that “the first and second reflective electrodes cover the first and second branch lines, respectively.”

Castleberry clearly does not teach such a feature. Even when combined with Choi, which was cited to only teach the reflective electrode 64 overlapping a portion of the data lines 50 and 52, the combination fails to teach that “the first and second reflective electrodes cover the first and second branch lines, respectively,” as recited in amended claims 1 and 18, as one reflective electrode 64 of Choi would cover **both** the top and bottom layer of data line 32 of Castleberry.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that none of the reference, taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests a “data line between the first and the second pixel regions includes a first branch line and a second branch line separated from each other by a second gap under the first gap, wherein the first and second reflective electrodes cover the first and second branch lines, respectively,” as recited in amended claims 1 and 18. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn for at least the reason presented above.

As to dependent claims 2 and 4-9, these claims all depend either directly or indirectly from their respective independent claims 1 and 18. Hence, Applicant respectfully asserts that none of the references, taken individually or in combination, renders these claims unpatentable for at least the reason presented above.

New Claim

As to new claim 23, claim 23 depends from now allowable claim 18. Moreover, claim 23 recites similar features of objected to, but allowable, claim 21. Therefore, no new matter has been entered. Applicant respectfully asserts claim 23 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 21.

CONCLUSION

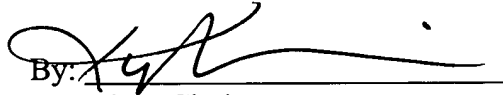
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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